

## Search The Scriptures

Linville Dunaway, Corinth Christian Church

Do we listen to the Word of God? I mean to hear what God has to say to us through His Word. When we hear the preacher or teacher telling us about the things that God says for us to do, do we take it to heart? For instance, read the words of Jesus in this passage -

**John 5:39**, "Search the scriptures; for in them ye think ye have eternal life: and they are they which testify of me."

The Lord tells us to read His Word. Do we do it? I don't mean a verse once in awhile or only at church. Is reading a part of your Christian life? At the church that I pastor, we encourage the congregation to read the Bible through each year. I make charts so that each of us can keep track of where we have read in the scriptures. Sad to say, but only some are interested in doing this. The older members are usually the ones who have read it through several times and still try to each year. Some others don't even make a pretense of trying and say, "I don't have time!"

I think that this is true of every church. There are those who try to serve

the Lord each day and those who think that Sunday is the only day to think Bible. Friends, if we know the Bible then we will know how to help someone or ourselves to deal with problems that arise. Consider this, there are people who go to church for years and still don't know how to tell somebody how to be saved. Once again I give you what the Lord Jesus had to say about this -

**Mark 12:24**, "And Jesus answering said unto them, Do ye not therefore err; because ye know not the scriptures, neither the power of God?"

If we don't know what God says about life, then how can we know how to live in a manner that is pleasing to God? A lot of people think it is okay for a Christian to sin. If they knew and believed what God says about it they would try to live without sin. The Bible is there for us to know the will of God. However, it is like medicine in a bottle, if we do not open it up and take it, how can it do us any good?

The Lord tells us to love one another, yet a lot of folks love those who are like them, think like them, and act like them. Churches are the same for they are made up of people. If you have a faithful church, loving church, caring church, etc., it is because that is the kind of people who go there. What kind of church would you have if everyone who went there was just like you?

A lot of the problems the church has today have come about because we have

weak church members who do not know the will of God. If we read the Bible, believed the Bible, and lived according to the Word and Will of God, we would see a change in our lives and in the world around us. When the Bible says something is wrong, do you realize that is what God says, for it is His Word?

Why is it that the things that God says to do, many people and churches won't do? What things? Baptism, the Lord's Supper, forgiveness, going to church, loving one another and the list could go on and on. Yet, when these supposed Bible believing people read or are told that drinking, gambling, fornication, loving the world, materialism, lying, cheating, forsaking God and the church is sin, they go and do it and think that it is alright.

I have seen too many people who say that they are Christians who lie and have no problem with it (see **Rev. 22:14-15**). Others give their money to the lottery but don't think that they should give any to support the Lord's work (**Mal. 3:8**). They are often the same ones who don't see a need to go to church (**Heb. 10:25-26**). Then there are those who don't seem to know what God says about divorce (**Mark 10:1-12**), baptism (**Acts 2:38**) and many other things. Now before you mock or make fun of me, see what these verses say, and know that I didn't write the Bible, God did.

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## Facts About The BIBLE BY JOHN LEHTI

HER NAME HAS BECOME PART OF OUR LANGUAGE - JEZEBEL!

IT HAS BEEN A CUSTOM, IN MODERN TIMES, WHEN A WOMAN ATTRACTS AND SEEMS TO EXERT UNDUE INFLUENCE OVER A MAN, OR MANY MEN, FOR PEOPLE TO CALL HER A JEZEBEL. HOWEVER, NO MODERN COUNTERPART COULD EVER COMPETE WITH THE ORIGINAL JEZEBEL FOR DOWNRIGHT EVIL AND MURDEROUS ACTS! BORN A PHOENICIAN-PRINCESS, DAUGHTER OF KING ETHBAAL, SHE MARRIED KING AHAB OF ISRAEL (CIRCA 865 B.C.). AND, IN SHORT ORDER, COMPLETELY DOMINATED THIS WEAK-WILLED RULER. ONCE AHAB WAS UNDER HER CONTROL, JEZEBEL IMMEDIATELY SET ABOUT DESTROYING ISRAEL'S RELIGION AND REPLACING IT WITH THE WORSHIP OF BAAL AND ASTARTE, PHOENICIAN DIETIES OF HER HOMETLAND....

...SHE INSTALLED, IN THE PALACE, AND SUPPORTED, NINE HUNDRED PRIESTS OF THIS HEATHEN RELIGION AND, IN TURN, HUNTED DOWN THE PRIESTS OF ISRAEL AND SLAUGHTERED THEM WHERE EVER SHE COULD! LOUNGING IN ORIENTAL LUXURY IN THE PALACE, SHE DIRECTED THE POLICIES OF THE KINGDOM, WHILE AHAB SAT MEEKLY BY HER SIDE, NEVER DARING TO DISPUTE HER. HER SCHEMINGS, HER CRUELITIES, AND HER PASSION FOR BLOOD-SPILLING ARE RECORDED IN THE BOOK OF I KINGS. ONLY ELIJAH, THE GREAT PROPHET, STOOD UP AGAINST THIS WICKED QUEEN AND FOUGHT HER EVIL INFLUENCE AT EVERY TURN. HER OWN DEATH AND DESTRUCTION WAS PREDICTED BY THE PROPHET AND TOOK PLACE EXACTLY AS HE PROPHESED IT WOULD! (I KINGS 9:30-37)

NEXT WEEK: HE HAD TO REBUILD THE WALLS TO REBUILD A NATION!

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